



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 520

January Session, 2003

Substitute Senate Bill No. 409

Senate, April 24, 2003

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. MURPHY of the 16th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A PLAN FOR AN ASSISTED LIVING PILOT PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS ON THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION'S WAITING LIST.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Mental
2 Retardation, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Social Services,
3 shall prepare a plan to establish and operate a pilot program to
4 provide residential accommodations with assisted living services to
5 individuals on the Department of Mental Retardation's waiting list for
6 residential placement or support. Such plan shall describe the
7 necessary elements of such a pilot program, including, but not limited
8 to, coordination of staffing issues and applications for federal
9 Department of Health and Human Services Demonstration Grants,
10 and any necessary Medicaid waivers. Not later than January 1, 2004,
11 the Commissioner of Mental Retardation shall submit a report
12 containing such plan, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general
13 statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly

14 having cognizance of matters relating to public health and human
15 services.

16 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 17a-218a of the general statutes is
17 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
18 *October 1, 2003*):

19 (c) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 1998, and June 30, 1999, the
20 commissioner shall not certify additional beds as immediate care
21 facilities for the mentally retarded (ICFMR) at the Southbury Training
22 School beyond a total of six hundred sixteen. For the fiscal year ending
23 June 30, 2004, and each fiscal year thereafter, the commissioner shall
24 designate all such beds that are unoccupied as community placement
25 waiver beds and shall allocate such beds equally among the state
26 mental retardation regions to be available for individuals on the
27 Department of Mental Retardation's waiting list.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type
Department of Mental Retardation	See Below
Department of Social Services	None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the commissioners of Mental Retardation and Social Services to prepare a plan to establish and operate a pilot program to provide residential assisted living to individuals on the DMR waiting list. Both departments will be able to prepare and submit the required plan without incurring additional costs.

Additionally, the bill requires the commissioner of the Department of Mental Retardation to designate unoccupied beds at Southbury Training School (STS) as community placement beds for individuals on the residential waiting list. It is unclear what the actual impact would be of designating such unoccupied beds at STS as community beds. However, it is anticipated that designated funding attributed to the Personal Services costs associated with the unoccupied beds at STS to community placements for individuals on the waiting list, would meet the same requirements. The Governor's Recommended FY 04 - FY 05 budget includes savings of \$567,672 in FY 04 and \$917,944 in FY 05 attributed to the declining population at STS, as positions are eliminated and funding reduced to reflect the attrition. Therefore by earmarking the funding attributed to the STS attrition to the community placements for individuals on the waiting list, a reallocation of funding (and thereby eliminating the potential savings)

would result. It should be noted that the state receives federal reimbursement under the Home and Community Based waiver for the funding of services provided in the community.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 409

AN ACT CONCERNING A PLAN FOR AN ASSISTED LIVING PILOT PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS ON THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION'S WAITING LIST**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR) to redesignate as "community placement waiver beds" (a Medicaid reimbursement category) any unoccupied ICFMR beds (intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded, a different Medicaid reimbursement category) at Southbury Training School. He must allocate these redesignated beds among the department's regions for people on its residential waiting list. He must begin doing this during FY 2003-04 and then whenever ICFMR beds at Southbury become unoccupied.

The bill also requires the DMR commissioner, in conjunction with the social services commissioner, to prepare a plan for a pilot program that provides residences with assisted living services to people on DMR's waiting list. The plan must describe the elements needed to implement the pilot program, including staffing coordination issues, necessary federal waivers, and potential federal grants. The report must be submitted to the Public Health and Human Services committees by January 1, 2004.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage for the plan preparation; October 1, 2003 for the redesignation and allocation of ICFMR beds.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22 Nay 0